

**VERMONT TOBACCO EVALUATION AND REVIEW BOARD**  
**BOARD MEETING**

**Wednesday, September 10, 2008 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**  
**The Vermont State House, 115 State Street, Montpelier, Room 10**

*Board Members or Designees Present:*

*Brian Flynn, Ted Marcy, Greg MacDonald, Patsy French, Amy Brewer, Edna Fairbanks Williams, Chris Finley, Bill Talbott, Kate Larose, Christy Taylor Mihaly, Marcia Lawrence, Todd Hill, Stephen Morabito.*

**MINUTES**

*Minutes appear in italicized font*

Public Comment (10 min.)

*Bruce Cunningham spoke about the importance of increased retail compliance checks.  
Catherine Suitor introduced Kate Coburn, who will be taking on Catherine's responsibilities.*

Announcements and Updates (Brian) (10 min.)

*Brian introduced Deputy Commissioner of Health, Chris Finley, Acting Commissioner of Education, Bill Talbott, Kate Larose as the new DOE designee, Stephen Morabito as the VTERB Administrator, and Teresa Leyro as UVM graduate student and future Board Member.*

*VTERB meeting minutes from July were declared ACCEPTED.*

*Brian nominated Ted Marcy for Vice Chair. Greg SECONDED; NO DISCUSSION; VOTE: THE AYES HAVE IT, NO ABSTENTIONS.*

*Brian updated the Board on the recent rescission of funds from the Tobacco Trust Fund and mentioned possible future rescissions.*

*Brian briefly discussed the article about how California has been able to save billions of dollars in medical costs through its investments in tobacco control; the Vermont program is also making an impact; contact Stephen if you want information about the California article. Brian reminded Board members to register for the September 24 Statewide Partners Meeting.*

*In October, the Board will discuss and vote on which policy changes it will support this upcoming legislative session. In December, the Board will have a conference call to approve the executive summary of the annual report.*

Site visit (December 8-10) Overview (Ted) (10 min.)

*Ted reviewed the agenda for the site visit and encouraged Board member and stakeholder attendance. Stephen and VDH staff will finalize locations for the various activities.*

Review of Formal Public Comment from August Solicitation (15 min.)

*Stephen reviewed the process for the second round solicitation of public comments. Themes and topics were discussed, including access to services, disparate populations, and funding strategies. Ted noted that the community coalition comments were more focused and therefore more helpful.*

## Summary of Budget Recommendations

Cessation Services Committee (Greg)	(5 min.)
Evaluation Committee (Ted)	(5 min.)
Media and Public Education Committee (Brian)	(5 min.)
Enforcement Committee (Christy)	(5 min.)
Community and School Programs Committee (Dani)	(5 min.)
General Discussion and Vote	(20 min.)

*Each Chair summarized their committee's budget recommendations as delineated on the draft budget document. Kate Larose represented the Community and School Programs Committee.*

*Ted MOVED TO DISCUSS; EDNA SECONDED.*

*Discussion: Each Committee will handle funds differently if level funded. Patsy discussed the need vs. reality of funds and emphasized the importance of communicating that needs will not be met with reduced funding levels.*

*VOTE: ALL THOSE IN FAVOR OF RECOMMENDING THE BUDGET AS PRESENTED; THE AYES HAVE IT, NO ABSTENTIONS; UNANIMOUS IN FAVOR.*

## Youth Access

Legislative Proposals Summary (Christy) (10 min.)

*Christy reviewed the Enforcement Committee's policy recommendations. Marcia reported that in June, Vermont's compliance checks rate was 90% and in July it was 91%. Also, retailers that fail are rechecked within two months. In October, the Board will discuss potential policy changes in more detail and vote on which changes to support for the upcoming legislative session.*

Social Sources of Tobacco (Todd) (10 min.)

*Todd reported that VDH is developing a way to further explore social sources of tobacco; an informational fact sheet will be disseminated at the Statewide Partners Meeting on September 24th. The meeting will include a session on this topic as well. The approach is to raise awareness that minors obtain tobacco in similar ways as they do for alcohol and that there are legal restrictions on furnishing tobacco to minors.*

Other Business (10 min.)

*No other business discussed.*

*Meeting adjourned at 4:57 pm.*